



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**

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## **‘Check on MIVet’ Helps Michigan Veterans, Guard and Reserve Members Thrive**

**LANSING, MICH.** The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) is launching a new initiative called “Check on MIVet” designed to get veterans, Michigan National Guard and Reserve members connected to the benefits and services they earned for their service.

Through the initiative, anyone concerned about a veteran, Guard or Reserve member can simply fill out an online form requesting that a representative from MVAA or one of our partner organizations check in on them through a phone call. Guard and Reserve members are eligible for many of the same benefits and services as their active component counterparts.

“The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency is committed to providing the best resources for support, care, advocacy and service to veterans, Guard and Reserve members and their families who live and work in our communities,” said Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers, Adjutant General and Director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. “The ‘Check on MIVet’ program is another means of ensuring the path to these resources is clear.”

Check on MIVet is not a mental health line or a “wellness” check; veterans experiencing a crisis should call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255.

Rather, the initiative aims to ensure veterans receive the employment, healthcare, quality of life and other benefits they need to thrive. As Michigan’s central coordinating agency for Michigan’s approximately 600,000 veterans and their families, MVAA is available 24/7 through its 1-800-MICH-VET hotline to answer veterans’ questions and connect them to benefits and services.

“Michigan is committed to serving our veterans through all phases of their lives, whether that means helping them obtain education benefits, find a job, secure long-term care or get connected to the federal and state benefits they earned for their service,” said MVAA Director Zaneta Adams. “Through ‘Check on MIVet,’ MVAA can be that resource that veterans need to stay connected – not just to their benefits, but to a person on the other end of the phone who cares about their well-being.”

The MVAA can also help veterans with emergency needs during these challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic – and throughout the year. This assistance includes grants for eligible veterans through the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund for emergent issues such as a temporary inability to pay the mortgage or utility bills.

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[www.michigan.gov/msp](http://www.michigan.gov/msp)

To access the Check on MIVet form, visit [bit.ly/34EvO4B](https://bit.ly/34EvO4B) – or go to the top of the MVAA website, michiganveterans.com, and click on the “Check on MIVet” banner.

The forms can be submitted electronically, by email to [MVAAResourceCenter@michigan.gov](mailto:MVAAResourceCenter@michigan.gov) or the information can be relayed to a technician with the MVAA’s Veteran Resource Service Center at 1-800-MICH-VET.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://CDC.gov/Coronavirus).

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